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for a time. About five years ago he obtained a 12½-inch reflector and made observations of *Jupiter*, *Mars*, and *Saturn*. His artistic talent enabled him to make good drawings at the telescope. At the time of his death he had been a Fellow of the Society for little more than a year, having been elected on the 14th of February 1902. Dr. Kibbler married in 1879 and leaves two sons. He died on the 10th of September 1903.

SAMUEL KINNS was born on the 14th of November 1826, at Colchester, where his father, the Rev. John Osborne Kinns, was a Congregational minister. He obtained the degree of Ph.D. from the University of Jena in 1859, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society in the same year. For about a quarter of a century he was principal of a school, called "The College," at Highbury New Park, and while there he published (in 1882) a work under the title *Moses and Geology*, the object of which was to reconcile scientific facts in geology and astronomy with the Biblical account of creation. This led to much controversy, but passed through several editions. Dr. Kinns was ordained by the Bishop of London (the late Dr. Temple, afterwards Primate) in 1885. Four years later he was presented by the Lord Chancellor to the living of Holy Trinity, Minories, which he held for ten years. In 1891 appeared his *Graven in the Rock*, the purpose of which is to show the harmony between the Biblical narratives and modern discoveries in Egyptian and Babylonian archæology; this work is profusely illustrated by photographs of the slabs and statues in the British Museum. Dr. Kinns also lectured very extensively on the above subjects. His last work, *Six Hundred Years*, gives an interesting sketch of the persons who had been in any way connected with the church in the Minories of which he had been vicar; the most interesting of these relates to the doings of Sir Isaac Newton whilst Master of the Mint. Dr. Kinns was never married, and resided latterly with friends at Haverstock Hill, Hampstead. About two years ago a paralytic seizure incapacitated him for work. He died on the 14th of July 1903, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. W. T. L.

THOMAS MACKENZIE, eldest son of Roderick Mackenzie, of Muir Houses, West Calder, was born on the 6th of May 1844. He was at school at Aberdeen, and at the age of 13 went to sea. For many years he was in the service of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. In 1892 he opened a school of navigation in Fenchurch Street, which he carried on to within a few months of his death. He was the author of *Practical Mechanics for Sailors*, and contributed numerous articles to the *Nautical Magazine* on Seamanship, Stability, Great Circle Sailing, and other questions connected with navigation. Captain Mackenzie was elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society on the 14th of January 1887. In November 1885 a paper written by him "On

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the Application of a Nicol's Prism to Sextant Observations" was published in the *Monthly Notices*, in which he advocated the use of a Nicol's prism to get rid of the glare from the horizon in preference to coloured shades.

Captain Mackenzie died on the 24th of January 1903, leaving a widow.

ARTHUR BURNETT MARTIN was the son of Captain K. B. Martin, R.N., harbour master at Ramsgate. Born on the 10th of May 1832, he entered the navy in 1845, but was invalided home from the Mediterranean in 1852. From 1852 to 1901 he was a teacher of navigation and nautical astronomy at Norie's Nautical Academy. During this period he prepared large numbers of pupils for the Board of Trade examinations. Most of his pupils belonged to the merchant service, with a small number of yachting men. He appears to have been an excellent teacher, with a faculty for putting things in such a way that they could not be forgotten, and with the ability to make his points clear to his dullest pupils. He wrote a work on navigation and revised *Norie's Epitome*. Mr. Martin was a Fellow of the Society for many years, being elected on the 10th of February 1854. He took great interest in astronomy and often gave lectures locally.

Owing to deafness he rarely attended the meetings of the Society in late years.

Mr. Martin died suddenly on the 5th of March 1903, leaving a widow.

FRANCIS MURRAY NEWTON was born at Barton Grange, Taunton, in 1852. He was educated at Eton and University College, Oxford. Soon after leaving Oxford Mr. Newton went with Captain Orde Browne to Egypt as an observer of the Transit of *Venus*, the party to the Mokattam Hills, near Cairo, consisting of Captain and Mrs. Orde Browne and Mr. Newton and his sister, Miss Emily M. Newton. Their camp at Mokattam was formed on the 21st of October 1894 and struck on the 25th of December. The weather seems to have caused the observers a good deal of anxiety, and on the 8th of December, the day of the transit, the clouds did not break till $12^h\ 10^m$, while the expected time of egress was $13^h\ 22^m$. About 10 minutes before contact a thick cloud swept over the Sun and completely obscured it till within 10^s of the contact, when it happily cleared off. Captain Orde Browne with a 6-inch, Mr. Newton with a $4\frac{1}{2}$-inch, lent him by Mr. Warren de la Rue, and Miss Newton with a 3-inch, belonging to her brother, all made satisfactory observations of the time of internal contact at egress and later of external contact.

The volume of *Transit of Venus*, 1874, *British Observations*, contains (Plate X.) drawings by Mr. and Miss Newton relating to the egress of *Venus* as seen by them. There is also an

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